

St Saviours Church

Bath St Saviours Church

Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 9th May 2021

Conducted on Zoom per guidance of Diocese of Bath and Wells

(In this instance, would the PCC secretary kindly make a note of names in attendance in lieu of in person signatures; and acknowledge any apologies)

1. Prayer
2. Apologies for Absence
3. **Annual Meeting of Parishioners**
 - a. Minutes of previous year
 - b. Election of Church Wardens
4. **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**
 - a. Minutes of last year's APCM
 - b. Reports
 - i. Vicar's Report
 - ii. Electoral Roll Report
 - iii. PCC report
 - iv. Safeguarding Report
 - v. Church Ministries Reports
 - vi. Buildings and Fabric Report
 - vii. Finance Report
 - viii. Deanery Synod Report
 - c. Elections and Appointments
 - i. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives (N/A)
 - ii. Election of PCC members
 - iii. Appointment of Independent Examiner
 - d. Any Other Business
5. Prayer

presented by

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of
Bath St Saviours

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING
ST SAVIOUR'S BATH, held in ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH and VIRTUALLY BY ZOOM ON SUNDAY
25th OCTOBER 2020 at 11.30am**

Revd Densmore welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer.

Election of two churchwardens

Cathy Head and Margaret Frankham were re-elected unanimously as churchwardens (proposed – Elona, seconded-Huw).

Present

18 members of the PCC and Revd Rob Densmore attended in church and members of the congregation attended in church and on zoom.

1. Apologies

None

2. Minutes of the meeting of 14th April 2019

Members were asked to approve the minutes of the meeting of 14th April 2019 as a true record of the proceedings. All agreed.

3. Presentation of the revised Electoral Roll

Dan Grabham presented report on the updating of the electoral roll. A summary of the report can be found in the Annual Report under Church Attendance. Revd. Densmore thanked Dan for overseeing the electoral roll.

4. Reports on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council for the preceding year

The Chairman's and Secretary's report together with the Treasurer's report were published in the Annual Report, which was made available to all on the electoral roll prior to this meeting. Christine Green presented the Secretary's report and was thanked by Revd Densmore. (Copy of reports in secretary file).

5. Presentation of

a) Independently examined accounts to 31st December 2019

b) Statement of funds at 31st December 2019

Huw Thomas presented the Financial Report for the 2019 period. The full Financial Report was published in the 2019 Annual Report and was made available to all on the electoral roll prior to this meeting (copies of reports in secretary file). Revd Densmore thanked Huw Thomas, Gabrielle Chambers and Donal Wynne for preparing this report.

The Statement of Accounts was unanimously accepted.

Safeguarding – report provided by Eric leach.

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Accounts to be examined next year by John Ennor. Proposed by Huw Thomas, seconded by Eric Leach. Thanks are to be passed on to John Ennor for reviewing the accounts.

7. Report of the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

Jeff Green presented the Fabric report and was thanked for his work in preparing Covid-19 risk assessments.

8. Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod

A report on Bath Deanery and its Synod is published alongside the Annual Report. The report was presented by Ian Sharp (copies of Deanery Synod minutes in secretary file).

9. Election of 15 people to the Parochial Church Council for one year

13 members were elected to the PCC for the forthcoming year:

Michael Akure – proposed by Ivor Vernalls, seconded by Huw Thomas

Gabrielle Chambers – proposed by Belinda Thomas, seconded by Dan Grabham

Elona Cooper – proposed by Cathy Head, seconded by Simon Marshall

Chris Dance – proposed by Elona Cooper, seconded by Huw Thomas

Mandy Dance – proposed by Bruce Lithgow, seconded by Dan Grabham

Dan Grabham - proposed by Rachel Howlett, seconded by Cathy Head

Christine Green – proposed by Elona Cooper, seconded by Huw Thomas

Ruth Hattersley – proposed by Simon Marshall, seconded by Chris Marshall

Rachel Howlett – proposed by Eric Leach, seconded by Ivor Vernalls

Kay Kebby-Jones – propose by Gabrielle Chambers, seconded by Dan Grabham

Eric Leach – standing down. Eric was thanked by Revd Densmore.

Huw Thomas – proposed by Dan Grabham, seconded by Tony Parr

Clare Younger – proposed by Christine Green, seconded by Tony Parr

All present were in favour of the above elections. Revd. Densmore thanked all returning members to the PCC and informed those present that a new standing committee was to be set up.

10. Election of lay representatives to Deanery Synod until 30 June 2023

Ian Sharp, Belinda Thomas and Tony Parr were re-elected as Deanery Synod representatives. Unanimously agreed.

11. Rector's address

Huw Thomas presented the Rector's report. He thanked everyone involved in church leadership, church services and activities throughout the interregnum and felt that the church

had grown as a team. Belinda and Huw Thomas were thanked for setting up the zoom services.

12. AOB

There was no other relevant business.

The meeting closed with prayer led by Ivor Vernalls. Revd Densmore thanked everyone and blessed the church.

Vicar's Report

Cam and I and the kids felt very welcomed as we undertook the 'cure of souls' at Bath St Saviours, with Swainswick and Woolley back in October 2020. My role as Rector officially began on 8 October and we have continually felt the love and support of all of you.

It has been something of an unusual time as we have adjusted to worship life and new church leadership during a pandemic. What has continually amazed me is the willingness of this church family to embark on this new journey with us - spiritually, missionally, evangelistically, pastorally.

In that time, I feel we have inherited so much of the prayers and hard work of predecessors, including the team that held it all together during the vacancy (which I understand was longer than expected). We have also inherited a great deal from the hard work and inspiration of our Youth and Children worker, Rachel Howlett. In fact, her programmes, initiatives and networking have been one of the biggest reasons we have been able to launch Grace@4:30 (for example) so quickly and effectively.

Having helped lead a church in vacancy before coming here, I am so aware of the fatigue that can set in. But what has surprised me is the eagerness and enthusiasm of this church family to press into a new season. And of course, what the new incumbent does not always get to see are the long-term investments in church life that so many devote themselves to.

People often ask me, 'isn't it hard to take over a church during a pandemic?' and 'can't you wait for things just to go back to normal?'. I would be very reluctant to say yes to either of these questions and simply leave it at that.

In fact, I don't believe there has ever been a better time to get started on this journey. We have all hit the ground running and endeavoured to respond to God's call to be 'the church' in Larkhall. As you all will know by now, for me, this means a wholehearted devotion to the mission of Jesus Christ. It fills my heart with great joy to feel this resonate with the hearts of St Saviours church family.

In the midst of lockdown(s) we were roughly 48 strong on the ground (those attending online services regularly). In the building with social distancing (and with those joining in on zoom), we stand at about 60 strong 'on the ground'. And so that puts us in the 'small church' category. I thank God for this every day, not because I don't want the church to grow in numbers, but because of the strong, tight core Jesus has entrusted to me to lead this church into new ventures.

I like to be honest about our challenges – and leadership team, wardens, youth and children team and PCC have reacted well to this approach to things. While finances are under control, we still faced significant debt when I first arrived here – from the building project

undertaken some years ago. We have been blessed to have steady hands at the financial helm, through the guidance of our finance team. But we do have to face the fact that that debt has significantly limited our ability to spend in other areas. It has also been a visible worry for several of our leadership. God has encouraged us to problem solve in creative ways. I am still using my mobile phone to stream all our services to Zoom! However, I am confident that the remainder of this debt, which is due to be paid off within the next year, will not pose a problem for our growth.

I have also sensed a real hunger for the Holy Spirit in this place and have done my best to respond, by shaping services to include more Holy Spirit and testimony time. That change is big for any church – and critical for us as we set a path for the future. As I write this, we have not yet completed our first visioning session. But the very prospect excites me beyond words. The Holy Spirit desires to release spiritual gifts in this place (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-10), to make disciples, to watch leaders grow, to pick out new leaders and to see His will come to fruition in this piece of geography we call Larkhall.

Such is the feel of this church as I stand before you now; we are proving to be a city on a hill: “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden” (Matthew 5:14). What the Spirit of Jesus continues to show us is what Matthew talks about prior to this verse. The city on the hill is not a proud city in the way we think of them. This city on a hill is made up of the poor in spirit, the mourners, the humble, those who thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers – and so in some ways this city stands apart from the proud city of Bath.

And that’s important. I believe this church is to be set apart, to lead with the humility (but conviction) of Jesus Christ, in the Gospel way - through our actions, our words and our lives. Such are the intangibles of church growth and development.

But, in addition, there are also some very tangible additions that we’ve seen over the last 6 months (which we can be proud of in a ‘non puffed up’ way):

- The addition of online database **ChurchSuite**, which is GDPR compliant that helps leaders manage ministries, communications, leave, work hours, teams, rotas and reminders in a safe and effective way
- The opening up of our **online services** to the public
- The start-up of a monthly **newsletter** to share news across the benefice
- The start-up of **‘PA evangelism’** during lockdown, in which several of our church family took part in sharing messages of hope and the Gospel around the parish on a public address system
- The growth of our **Worship Team**, with the appointment of Eunja Palmen as our Worship Leader
- The start-up of Christmas and Easter **outdoor services**
- The approval of plans to install **4G** in the church (installation is now underway), which will upgrade our internet connection; the upgrade to A/V programmes like **Worship Extreme** that help us present worship songs, media and Bible verses on screen

- The approval of a budget to purchase **audio and video streaming equipment** that will upgrade and expand our online presence
- The start-up of **Life Groups**. We currently have 7 up and running, with joined up agendas and studies
- The start-up of **Grace@4:30**, our service for children and families – led by Rachel Howlett, Rachael Markham and me - which has now run three services (two online, one in person), with our fourth happening this evening
- The start-up of a **Pastoral Care Team**, led by Ivor Vernalls, which has been working right through the lockdowns to provide care for those in the community
- The start-up of a **Prayer Ministry Team**, led by Ruth Hattersley, and which has led weekly prayer ministry on Tuesdays all throughout the lockdown
- The start-up of our first mission project, **Little Bags of Joy**, which has now given away 100 bags in Larkhall and beyond; helped us engage with countless neighbours, allowed us to pray with people, and have conversations. Several families have made their way to Grace@4:30 as a direct result of this mission.
- The start-up of **Give Joy**, a weekly hospitality mission led by Belinda Thomas, Rachel and Edward Leigh-Wood, which has enabled us to serve coffee and cake to the public, to share the good news of Jesus Christ, and to pray with people. *One session in and someone has already come to faith as a direct result of this ministry.*

On top of this, we have been growing the number of those preaching in services. To date, we have had nearly 500 'listens' to our talks online, which are now listed on iTunes podcasts. People around the world have tuned in, from the US to the UK, to India, Germany, Indonesia, Maldives, Netherlands, Mexico, Thailand, Canada, Pakistan, Egypt, Russian Federation, Mongolia, Togo, France, South Korea, Bangladesh, Australia, Angola and South Africa.

We have also been growing leaders. To date, we have 11 people (not me!) leading the frontline ministries of this church. And we want to raise up more.

All in all, we have so much to celebrate. The evangelism, teaching, preaching, mission and prayer that we have engaged in are leading us on to more of the same.

And please don't worry, I'll be putting my picture up soon on the 'who's who' board by the door ... because we do indeed plan on staying.

- Rob Densmore, Rector

Electoral Roll Report – Dan Grabham, Electoral Roll Officer

We currently have 126 people on the St. Saviour's Electoral Roll of whom 65 are non-resident in the parish and 61 are resident in the parish.

PCC Report – Christine Green, PCC Secretary

The PCC met on 4 occasions, virtually via Zoom, due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, with an average attendance of 15 members.

The Leadership team met between PCC meetings, and matters needing to be discussed were brought to the PCC.

In addition to Finance and Fabric which were on each PCC agenda, the following matters were discussed:

- Mission and evangelism proposals for lockdown – Little Bags of Joy, Coffee/cake table
- 4.30 Grace service
- CCLI
- Reflection on current parish and benefice
- Church tech, 4G
- Reopening of church following lockdown
- Church credit card
- Church garden beautification

The members of the PCC have been:

Revd Rob Densmore

Cathy Head (Church Warden)

Margaret Frankham (Church Warden)

Belinda Thomas	}	(Deanery Synod reps- elected until 2023)
Tony Parr		
Ian Sharp		

Elected members:

Gabrielle Chambers

Kay Kebby-Jones

Huw Thomas (Treasurer)

Dan Grabham

Ruth Hattersley

Rachel Howlett

Chris Dance

Amanda Dance (Parish Administrator)

Michael Akure

Elona Cooper (Safeguarding Officer)

Clare Younger

Christine Green (PCC Secretary)

Safeguarding Report – Elona Cooper

The PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

We currently have 34 church members cleared by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). These include clergy, lay readers, church wardens and anyone who pre the Pandemic worked with our children's or youth groups.

2 new DBS applications have been made by people who have a key role in the Grace service. Our Pastoral Care team will also need to have DBS clearance before they can undertake home visits.

Pastoral Care Team Report – Ivor Vernalls

The PCT was set up during the Interregnum and then formally established in the Autumn of 2020. The team is led by Ivor Vernalls who has the support of Kay Kebby-Jones, Hilary Taylor, Elona Cooper, Margaret Frankham, Chris Marshall and Elaine Courtney. Between them they maintain contact with a number of Church members and friends who are unable to attend services in Church or on Zoom. Some have been forced to isolate because of their health problems. Each member of the team is encouraged to contact specific members as well as be available to pick up individual referrals.

As a team, about thirty people received flowers for Mothering Sunday and Easter cards and many more were sent Christmas Cards. All of these were well received. Some of those without email addresses are also sent hard copies of the Message Newsletter. As lockdown is lifted it may be possible to visit some of our contacts with extra needs.

Life Groups Report – Rev Rob Densmore

We currently have 42 people attending 7 different life groups meeting in different homes around Larkhall and the surrounding area. They meet on different days and at different times. At the moment these are exclusively on zoom, but it is the hope that in the future a good many will be hosted in homes and some hosted in church. These groups are a vital source of support & encouragement to many, especially during a difficult season; and they help people to feel part of the church family at St Saviours.

Worship Team Report – Eunja Palmen

Our 10:30am service remains a reflective but charismatic service, with room for both liturgy and testimony of the Holy Spirit. Music is led on the guitar or piano by a variety of musicians. The organ is occasionally played.

Over the last several months we have enabled a variety of worship leaders to lead, which along with preaching and teaching, complete the spectrum of worship offered on Sunday.

We continue to promote servant hearted leadership on team, with an emphasis on providing an opportunity for people to meet with the Holy Spirit during worship.

It has also been affirming to showcase the talents of many individuals, including several of our youth.

We are intentional in our language and our attitude - intentional about making communal worship truly accessible and participatory, especially to people who don't speak 'church'. If you don't know the songs, the words on the screen should help you along and we value strong applicable Bible teaching, prayer and time for the Holy Spirit to work amongst us.

Schools Report – Rachel Howlett

School's work continues online through pre-recorded assemblies at our three parish schools. In this time, we have also tried to share with our schools how much we appreciate their hard work through sending cards and gifting each class plants. Through discussions with governors, the ethos committee and staff Rob and I are prayerfully considering what can be done to support school staff and pupils pastorally after a tough year.

Youth and Children Work Report – Rachel Howlett

In a year of changing regulations and lockdowns children and youth work has had to continually adapt at short notice.

Youth Group

Youth group has been primarily meeting online with a core group of around 10 this last year. Over these last months, youth group has resumed meeting in person whenever regulations allowed. Led by Pippa Bruce-Jones and me, it has been great to welcome five new faces this year. Highlights have been seeing the youth lead some of the sessions, produce drama for the Alice Park Nativity, get involved in creating the online Grace services and all gather to pray on the steps for one of the members before their shoulder operation. We continue to offer a range of activities and food when rules allow!

Toddlers

We have used social media like Facebook to conduct story and song time and, as well as other activities through lockdown/s. Of course, we find that nothing quite compares to meeting in person, even with limited numbers, no coffee or snacks and facemasks!

Due to the prolonged church closure last year many of the toddler group are now at full time school or nursery and the group is made up of almost entirely new faces. The demand for this group means it books out quickly and we hope to be allowed to include more families soon. Although as we move into this new season, we are looking for quality encounters with these parents and children, to talk about faith and to pray – and the current numbers work well in facilitating this.

We also welcomed Kelly Edmunds and Cam Densmore onto the team with Rosie Napier and me. The focus currently is very much on building relationships with this new group as we consider a parents lunchtime Alpha or what God is calling us to next through these relationships.

Sunday morning groups

Creche, Junior Church and Offspring remain closed at present, though it has been great to welcome some children back into church since Easter and activities are being provided at the back or side of the main church.

Grace@4:30 Service Report – Revd Rob Densmore and Rachel Howlett

With the launch of Grace@4:30 during lockdown, we anticipated the need to reach children and parents with an easy, accessible entry to the story of Jesus Christ through church. So much of this has been built on Rachel Howlett's work over the past several years – in building connections with children and families and in providing access points for this demographic in church. Grace is one such access point. What we have learned throughout lockdown is that there is a growing trend (which started before the pandemic) of new attendees engaging less and less with formal church services in the building. Yet, there is growing interest to be part of something centred around this demographic. Our goal is to be able to translate Jesus Christ among this group and to allow the Holy Spirit to bring these people fully into the church family.

The first two Grace services were short-ish videos which we posted online (Facebook and YouTube). They each were viewed over 100 times, the first some 200 times between both platforms. This was a learning curve as we approached creating content for children. We shortened spoken interviews, focused on exciting stories and provided hands on activities. On 25 April we launched our first in person Grace service, with a spring BBQ, live music and activities and games for children.

At the start of this Grace planning process, PCC approved my request to bring on Rachael Markham as our Grace worship leader. She has added a great deal, not just in terms of music, but in the visioning and planning process that has gone into these services.

We currently have a mixed economy of outside and inside services. More parents and children prefer the garden setting so we try and make this a lively space by providing fire pits, props (like our wooden cross) and string lights. On 25 April, we had 40 children and parents and friends attend. And we look forward to growing this number!

Prayer Ministry Report – Ruth Hattersley

Our Prayer Ministry was one of the first ministries launched upon Rob's arrival at St Saviours. It involved intentional training into prayer in the power of the Spirit, with a focus on aiming towards specific outcomes: healing, deliverance, coming to faith and deepening of faith. Led by Ruth, Rosie Napier regularly assists, along with support from Eunja Palmen

and Rachel Howlett. There are plans underway to introduce wider Prayer Ministry training across the whole church – with the goal of equipping every member to be a leader and discipler in prayer. Prayer Ministry has seen quite a few people come through its doors. It has altered its times in different seasons, alternating between morning hours and evening hours on a Tuesday.

Little Bags of Joy Mission Report – Ruth Hattersley

13 March marked our launch of the Little Bags of Joy mission – an initiative aimed at reaching out to our local community in an act of love with ‘no strings attached’. What we had observed over the lockdowns was a heightened sense of isolation, worry and mental health concerns. Little Bags of Joy was designed to be a love offering from the church to the community, with the express desire to remind people that they are not alone and that the church is there for them. We distributed some 50 bags that first weekend. On 17 April, we hosted another round in which we distributed another 50 bags, this time to different addresses. Each part of the parish was subdivided and assigned to one of our 7 Life Groups. Life Group leaders organised their own groups and collected bags. We prayed together before each outing. While the first outing was aimed at ‘getting our feet wet’, the second outing was more targeted. Life Groups were challenged to pray for and with the people they came across. This led to prayers of healing for total strangers; long listening conversations to those not like us; and encouraged at least two young families to join us at our Grace service (and they came!); and led to one young person getting involved in our youth programme. We are planning a third round of distribution soon.

Give Joy Mission Report – Belinda Thomas, Edward and Rachel Leigh-Wood

It is ambitious to launch two mission projects in close proximity to each other, but we felt that actually the Little Bags of Joy and Give Joy were very closely related. They aimed to spread love from the church to the local community, through the offering of a gift, a listening ear and prayer. The concept behind Give Joy, ultimately, was very straightforward. On Tuesdays from 10:00-11:30 a covered table is placed in the gated entrance by the east end of the church; here passers-by can easily be greeted by our team without our team crossing over into public spaces. We simply engage in intentional conversation with passers-by, offering them coffee/tea and cake. In many cases, we also offer prayer. 4 May was our launch of this mission and it was a pleasant surprise to see so many people stop and chat. The team prayed with several people and smiles and laughter were abundant. One guest – Chris – stop and spoke with the team for quite a long time. During this time, he was open about the life challenges he was facing; and during this time he gave his life to Jesus Christ. The team is aware that such journeys – coming fresh into faith – can be exceedingly challenging, so it is great to be able to offer some of our other ministries and services for him to plug into. It’s also significant that, in many important ways, the Give Joy mission is joined up with our Prayer Ministry mission, which runs at the same time on Tuesdays. It’s envisioned that those who need more prayer can go into the church once they’ve engaged with the Give Joy team.

Buildings and Fabric Report – Jeff Green

General

The Church infrastructure is in a generally satisfactory condition, with little deterioration in fixtures, fittings and structure occurring during the recent Covid 19 (CV19) lockdown period. While the church has been empty, regular scheduled and unscheduled checks have been made and logged. Repairs, both major and minor, have been carried out, as detailed below.

Exterior and Grounds

Quarterly visual inspections of the external facings of the Church and grounds reveal no major infrastructural issues. Loose concrete on the steps has been repaired and the area made safe. Loose railings on the main entrance from St Saviours Road were cemented into place and the top of the wall repointed. The front door has recently been repainted but the foot of the right hand door is worn and will shortly need repair / replacement. Paintwork on the red doors to the rear of the church, and to the kitchen, is beginning to peel away: sanding down and repainting, will protect / prolong the life of the doors. Visual inspection of the roof, completed during the reporting period, revealed no major issues.

Interior

Quarterly visual inspections of the interior of the Church and grounds reveal no new major infrastructural issues. However, two known (and previously reported) issues continue to be of some concern:

- Although the cracking in the wall on the northern side of the church (above the choir pews) does not appear to have deteriorated, the damaged areas extend over several meters and must be closely monitored.
- The water damage above the first window on the upstairs pews (left hand side), now extends over a wide area. It is recommended that both areas continued to be monitored carefully for the signs of any further deterioration.

Part of the ceiling collapsed in the South Aisle in November 2020. A claim was made through the building insurance policy. Two quotes were obtained for the work and Ellis and Co repaired the damaged ceiling. As part of the claim the organ was cleaned by Walkers of Devizes.

The remaining ceiling area appear to be in a satisfactory condition, although there is some cracking in the plaster in some areas. This appears to be superficial, but, given the collapse described above, continual close monitoring of these areas will be necessary.

Boilers were serviced in February 2021. At the same time a new Flue Plume kit and condense trap was installed on each boiler. A local repair was carried out to the trapdoor accessing the boiler area.

The tower infrastructure appears to be sound. The wooden access stairway from belfry to trapdoor is not considered to be sufficiently robust to allow the safe passage of more than two persons at a time. For this reason, it is recommended that no further casual visits to the tower be made until the stairs have been cleared for use by a specialist inspector. In addition, there is an infestation of flying insects within this section of the tower – it is not thought that they constitute a health hazard, or present a risk to the integrity of the structure. However, they could cause alarm to casual visitors. The top of the tower was swept for recently swept for debris and hazard tape has been applied to the metal stanchions. Trip hazard remains a feature of the platform at the top of the tower.

The flooding / wearer ingress issues previously reported in the crypt appear to have been resolved. The crypt area is in a satisfactory condition. Hazardous materials have been removed, but there is still large amount of surplus equipment and builders material which needs to be cleared.

A log of minor repairs is kept in the kitchen pantry cupboard. Most of these repairs have been carried out in-house. However, the following repairs remain outstanding:

- Loose brass railings to the pulpit. This will require specialist attention. In the interim, they have been marked as unsafe.
- Some of the windows in the main church area cannot be closed / opened, due to corrosion. Lubricant has been applied but was not effective. However, as these windows are not an emergency exit, and could not be used to illegally access the church, their repair is not considered to be a priority.
- Despite local repairs, the sliding doors between the fellowship centre and the church do not fully shut.
- The skirting board around the new parquet floor in the entrance foyer is crumbling in places.
- Some paintwork is crumbling in both the lower and upper areas of the church.

Health and Safety

Scheduled and non-scheduled checks of emergency lighting, fire alarm, and fire-fighting equipment checks have been completed and logged throughout the reporting period, by both contractors and the HSW officer. Two of the emergency lights are unserviceable but, because there is sufficient redundancy in the system, this risk can be carried.

The COSHH policy has been reviewed.

Most of the actions arising from the fire safety action plan (based on the Nov 19 fire risk assessment inspection) have been taken, although there are some remaining tasks. A manual version of the plan, with details of actions completed, is on the Fire file in the pantry cupboard.

Covid Risk assessments have been completed for a range of church reopening scenarios. It is recommended that risk assessments continue to be completed, where appropriate, until all CV19 restrictions are withdrawn.

The following HSW actions are outstanding :

- Safe working practices for the evacuation of disabled persons from the first floor needs to be documented.
- The food safety policy needs to be reviewed
- A fire evacuation drill needs to take place
- Fire marshals need to be appointed and trained
- The contents of First Aid kits need to be checked

The HSW officer resigned in March 2021; full notes, including a schedule of mandatory checks, were produced for his successor and a verbal brief will be given when the identity of the new HSW officer is known.

Finance Report – Huw Thomas, Treasurer

INCOME

The PCC's total income for 2020 at £111,265 was 24% (£35,380) lower than last year. Income into the **unrestricted** General Fund saw a decrease of 23.2% (£28,366). Whilst the income from planned giving and other donations was up £4,824, sundry donations and legacies were down and there was a significant fall in income from church lettings, fairtrade and events.

Income into **restricted** funds showed a 28.7% (£7,015) decrease which was due to lower planned giving and no income generated from events.

EXPENDITURE

Total expenditure, at £118,844 saw a decrease in expenditure of 15.2% (£21,322) the main savings were parish share and reduced Fairtrade.

The overall excess of expenditure over income in 2020 led to a decrease in the value of the PCC's total funds of £7,580. As a result of this, the church's total funds decreased in value from £45,307 to £37,727 although this valuation includes £23,012 of fixed assets (boilers, solar panels, audio-visual equipment etc).

IN-YEAR MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

The **General Fund** decreased in value by £23,664 to £25,577. When the effect of fixed asset depreciation is excluded, the underlying "cash" deficit was £14,649. The main contributors to this worsening position were: a reduction in collections and donations / legacies (£15,105), a lower contribution from weddings and funerals (£1,274), lower fundraising (£1,388) and lower lettings (£4,514). In addition the decision was taken to reduce the value of fair trade

stock held by £1900 to better reflect the immediate prospect of realising this value. The effect has been to increase costs and reduce General Fund value by £1900. These adverse variances were counteracted in part by higher planned giving (£4,824).

The **Toddlers Fund** has been closed and the funds of £744 transferred to the General Fund.

The **Community Hub Fund** increased in value during the year by £16,877 to £6,110, and the diocesan loan had a balance outstanding of £12,000 at the year end. The PCC plan to repay the loan in accordance with its terms by the end of 2021.

The **Bell Fund** increased slightly in value during the year although regular ringing activities have largely ceased.

The **Altar Frontal Fund** increased in value slightly from interest payments there was no expenditure in the year.

RESERVES

The PCC is required to formulate and disclose its policy on “reserves”, i.e. the level of funds which are freely available at any time. The PCC has adopted a policy to maintain reserves of £33,500 which is based upon 2 months of average general expenditure to cover variability in the timing of outgoings and a £12,500 lump sum to cover unforeseen short term building maintenance needs. As it has no investments or property assets, the PCC defines reserves as the total value of its unrestricted funds less fixed assets. Using this definition reserves were therefore at £2,565 on 31 December 2020, leaving a £30,935 shortfall against the target level of reserves.

COMMENT

The decrease in income from hire charges, events and weddings and funerals because of national lockdowns due to Covid 19 has had a significant effect in 2020, as has the reduction in Collections due to the church building being closed for a significant proportion of the year.

- We completed in 2020 the 5 years of enhanced level of discretionary outward giving targeted by the PCC.
- The 2018 quinquennial survey identified £38,000 of building repairs required in the medium term. Whilst the fabric of the church is generally in good order there are items of expenditure we should be planning to undertake in the medium term.
- The congregational pledges required to pay off the diocesan loan are now complete and the majority of those giving pledges have elected to continue their giving and to divert this into the General Fund.

Independent Examiner's Report

Registered Charity No: 1129675

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath Financial Statements

For the year ending 31 December 2020

Prepared for the PCC by:

Mr. Huw Thomas (PCC Treasurer)
Walnut Lodge
Charlcombe Lane
Bath

Examined by Independent Examiner:

Mr. Steve Bruce-Jones
Cole Style Farm
Bruton, Somerset

For presentation to PCC for approval from: 22nd March 2021

For display on Notice Board from: 10th May 2021
(following consideration by APCM on 9th May)

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath

Independent Examiner's Certificate

I report to the trustees (PCC members) on my examination of the financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- a) accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- b) the financial statements do not accord with the accounting records; or
- c) the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the

Signed: S. Bruce-Jones Date: 7th May 2021

Steve Bruce-Jones

Cole Style Farm, Cole, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0PJ

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath **Statement of Financial Activities**

For the year ending 31 December 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Note	£	£	2020 £	2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	2a)	83,925	17,132	101,057	117,420
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>	2b)	0	0	0	1,633
<i>Incoming resources from church activities</i>	2c)	9,022	268	9,290	26,760
<i>Income from investment</i>	2d)	96	41	137	282
<i>Other incoming resources</i>	2e)	781	0	781	550
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		93,824	17,441	111,265	146,645
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
<i>Church Activities</i>	3a)	118,231	613	118,844	140,166
<i>Generation of voluntary income</i>	3b)	0	0	0	0
<i>Fundraising costs</i>	3c)	0	0	0	0
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		118,231	613	118,844	140,166
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		-24,408	16,828	-7,580	6,479
GAINS AND (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS	5b)	0	0	0	0
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	1a)	744	-744	0	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		-23,664	16,084	-7,580	6,479
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1st JAN 2020		49,241	-3,934	45,307	
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020		25,577	12,150	37,727	

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2020

		2020	2019
	Note	£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5a)	23,012	32,027
Investment Assets	5b)	0	0
		<u>23,012</u>	<u>32,027</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock (Fair Trade goods)		400	3,536
Debtors	6	8,440	4,313
Short term deposits	7	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand	7	22,427	36,369
		<u>31,267</u>	<u>44,218</u>
LIABILITIES (DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR)	8a)	16,552	30,938
		<u>14,715</u>	<u>13,280</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>37,727</u>	<u>45,307</u>
LIABILITIES (DUE OVER ONE YEAR)	8b)	0	0
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>37,727</u>	<u>45,307</u>
REPRESENTED BY FUNDS			
Unrestricted			
General Fund	9a)	25,577	49,241
Restricted			
Community Hub Fund	9b)	6,110	-10,767
Toddlers Fund	9c)	0	825
Bell Fund	9d)	5,293	5,264
Altar Frontal Fund	9e)	747	744
		<u>37,727</u>	<u>45,307</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. Rob Densmore (Chairman):  Date: 7 May 2021

The notes on pages 4 to 11 form part of these accounts.

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ending 31 December 2020

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2015.

The financial statements are prepared on an ongoing concern basis.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor to those that are informal gatherings that include church members (such as Day Club).

1a) Funds

Restricted Funds represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year is carried forward as a balance on the fund unless its transfer to another fund is specifically consented by the original donors. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Restricted Funds include:

Toddlers Fund: This fund contains money generated by subscriptions and donations which is used for the running expenses of the Toddler Group and as such it was treated as restricted. An annual transfer was made from this fund to the General Fund as a partial contribution to the costs of the Fellowship Centre and the Youth and Children's worker. Some years ago the compulsory subscription was replaced with voluntary unrestricted donations. The decision was therefore taken by the PCC in 2020 to close this fund and transfer the balance to the General Fund which would support its operation in future without the need to make transfers between funds to cover hire and staff costs.

Altar Frontal Fund: This restricted fund was set up to hold a donation made during 2017 for the purchase of a new altar frontal. The frontal was purchased during 2018 but the fund has not been fully consumed so the fund has a balance remaining at the year end.

Bell Fund: This fund is restricted to the maintenance of the bell ringing activities of the church.

Community Hub Fund (Youth and Community Centre): A fund which was set up in 2006 for the provision of youth and community rooms at first floor level. The building work was completed during 2017 and the fund will remain open until the associated loan from the Diocese is repaid in 2021.

Unrestricted Funds are general funds which can be used by the PCC for ordinary purposes. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Unrestricted Funds include:

General Fund: for all income and expenses relating to the day to day running of the church. Donors to this fund make no restrictions as to the uses to which the fund should be applied.

Endowment Funds: The PCC does not own any Endowment Funds

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ending 31 December 2020

1b) Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. Fees payable to the Diocese for weddings and funerals are excluded from these statements. Although these pass through the PCCs bank account they are not the PCC's property.

1c) Resources expended

Donations to other organisations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

1d) Fixed Assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by the Charities Act

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2003 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2003 have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their currently anticipated economic life on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, on individual items under £1000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2003 is written off.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years (PC, projectors, electric piano, sound and AV systems, photocopier and kitchen appliances) or 10 years (church noticeboard, boilers and solar panels). Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less a provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ending 31 December 2020

2 INCOMING RESOURCES		Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
		Funds	Funds	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£
2a)	<i>Voluntary Income</i>				
	Planned Giving:				
	Tax Efficient donations	38,325	11,718	50,043	48,877
	Other donations	26,511	2,135	28,646	30,565
	Income tax recoverable	11,200	2,964	14,164	14,875
	Collections at all services	2,526	-	2,526	4,368
	Sundry donations	5,330	315	5,645	13,702
	Grants received	33	-	33	33
	Legacies	-	-	0	5,000
		83,925	17,132	101,057	117,420
2b)	<i>Activities for generating funds</i>				
	Fundraising events	-	-	0	1,633
2c)	<i>Incoming resources from church activities</i>				
	Refreshments/Books/Miscellaneous	537	-	537	1,573
	Fair Trade Sales	5,268	-	5,268	13,204
	Church Lettings	1,754	-	1,754	6,268
	Feed in Tariff	807	-	807	955
	Contributions to Events	37	268	305	2,847
	Weddings/Funerals (excl. Diocesan fees)	619	-	619	1,913
		9,022	268	9,290	26,760
2d)	<i>Income from investment</i>				
	Dividends and interest	96	41	137	282
2e)	<i>Other incoming resources</i>				
	VAT on building works recoverable from LPWS	781	-	781	550
	Income from Insurance Claims	-	-	0	0
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	93,824	17,441	111,265	146,645

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath **Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

For the year ending 31 December 2020

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED		Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
		Funds	Funds	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£
3a) Church Activities					
	<i>Outward Giving from General Fund</i>				
	SAMS/CMS/D Stokes	2,000	-	2,000	2,220
	Genesis Trust	1,978	-	1,978	1,992
	Hope Christian Trust	1,020	-	1,020	1,020
	Zambia Link	1,008	-	1,008	1,008
	Bath Youth for Christ	1,008	-	1,008	1,008
	Christian Mission to Jews	1,008	-	1,008	1,008
	St Mark's School	1,000	-	1,000	2,500
	St Saviours Junior School	500	-	500	500
	St Saviours Infants School	500	-	500	500
	Julian House/BCHA	480	-	480	480
	Christian Solidarity Worldwide	420	-	420	504
	Barnabas Fund	378	-	378	504
	Veronica Doyle-Davison	360	-	360	360
	Bath Deanery	280	-	280	0
	Hope for Justice	220	-	220	500
	Bath CAN	200	-	200	200
	Marlbrook Team Council/Rose Cottage	126	-	126	438
	Traidcraft Exchange	51	-	51	291
	Others	50	-	50	255
	Forever Friends	50	-	50	200
	Sub-total	12,637	0	12,637	15,488
	<i>Outward Giving from Toddlers</i>				
	Care for the Family	-	0	0	60
	Total Outward Giving	12,637	0	12,637	15,548

The PCC has set a target of giving away 10% of the unrestricted money it receives. It has further been agreed to increase this target to 15% of unrestricted income for 2016-2020 as an act of thanksgiving for God's blessings to us in providing for the Community Hub. The relevant unrestricted income from notes 2a) to 2d) above comes to £87,626 of which 14.4% has been given out to the causes listed above. Over the 5 years of the period of increased giving the cumulative proportion of unrestricted income distributed has been 15% as agreed.

In addition to this discretionary giving, a sum of £2,450 (£1,406 in 2019) in dedicated "appeal" collections was channelled through the PCC's bank account. Although this giving does not form part of the PCC's financial activity, the main appeals in the year were gifts for the Densmores (£2,100) and Ivor Vernalls Gift (£350).

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ending 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	2020 £	2019 £
Church Activities (continued)				
Ministry				
Diocesan Parish Share	50,328	-	50,328	56,658
Clergy Expenses	2,385	-	2,385	2,165
Service Costs	599	-	599	563
Heating, lighting and water	4,638	-	4,638	4,514
Buildings and Maintenance				
General building and maintenance	4,930	-	4,930	4,977
Cleaning and gardening	1,703	-	1,703	3,239
Professional fees	342	-	342	450
Equipment	321	-	321	264
Depreciation	9,015	-	9,015	9,007
Insurance	3,012	-	3,012	2,958
Children's and Youth Work	11,722	353	12,075	11,968
Music	707	-	707	1,384
Mission	30	-	30	667
Refreshments/Wedding&Funeral/Misc. costs	558	-	558	3,031
Fair Trade cost of sales	6,656	-	6,656	10,299
Costs of Bell ringing	-	20	20	20
Office Expenses	1,685	-	1,685	2,546
Interest and Bank Charges	340	240	580	1,000
Secretarial	6,625	-	6,625	8,908
	118,231	613	118,844	140,166
3b) <i>Generation of voluntary income</i>	0	0	0	0
3c) <i>Fundraising costs</i>	0	0	0	0
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	118,231	613	118,844	140,166

4a) STAFF COSTS

Wages and salaries (including NI/pension cost) 18,135 19,024

During the year the PCC employed a Parish Administrator and a Youth, Children and Families Worker. Fees paid to occasional organists and speakers are not included above.

4b) Payments to PCC members

The following PCC members and related parties received payments from the PCC a) Mandy Dance for her employment as Parish Administrator and b) Rachel Howlett, Belinda Thomas, Huw Thomas, Gabrielle Chambers, Cathy Head, and Mandy Dance for re-imbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath **Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

For the year ending 31 December 2020

5 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

		£
5a) Tangible fixed assets		
Actual/Deemed Cost	at 1 January	82,375
	Additions during the year	0
	Disposals during the year	0
	at 31 December	82,375
Depreciation	at 1 January	50,348
	Disposals during the year	0
	Charge for the year	9,015
	at 31 December	59,363
Net Book Value	at 1 January	32,027
	at 31 December	23,012

At January 2021 the fixed assets comprised a laptop computer, projector, outdoor noticeboard, sound system, electric piano, various kitchen appliances, office photocopier, church boilers, south aisle solar panels and the audio-visual equipment in the Community Hub. No new fixed assets were acquired during the year.

- 5b) Investment fixed assets
The PCC does not own any investment assets.

6 DEBTORS

	2020 £	2019 £
Income tax recoverable	7,638	3,171
Prepayments and accrued interest	21	21
VAT recoverable	781	726
Other debtors	0	395
	<u>8,440</u>	<u>4,313</u>

7 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

PCC General Account	22,402	36,309
CBF Deposit Account	0	0
Fairtrade cash in hand	0	50
Toddlers Cash in hand	0	0
Bell ringers Cash in Hand	25	10
	<u>22,427</u>	<u>36,369</u>

8 LIABILITIES :

8a) AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Accrued costs	3,919	6,530
Creditors	633	408
Diocesan Loan	12,000	24,000
	<u>16,552</u>	<u>30,938</u>
8b) AMOUNTS FALLING DUE BEYOND ONE YR	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ending 31 December 2020

9 FUND DETAILS		2020	2019
	Note	£	£
9a) GENERAL FUND			
Planned Giving		64,836	59,995
Collections		2,526	4,368
Sundry Donations/Legacies/Grants		5,363	18,626
Income Tax Reclaimed		11,200	11,380
Fair Trade sales		5,268	13,204
Refreshment sales		352	1,538
Fees for weddings and funerals		619	1,893
Hire charges		1,754	6,268
Fundraising		0	1,388
Feed in Tariff		807	955
Event contributions		37	1,828
Miscellaneous/interest/LPWS		1,062	746
TOTAL INCOME		93,824	122,189
Parish Share		50,328	58,658
Outward Giving		12,637	15,488
Children and Youth Costs		11,722	11,232
Fair trade costs		6,656	10,299
Heat Light Water		4,638	4,514
Maintenance and Equipment		5,592	5,240
Cleaning and gardening		1,703	3,239
Insurance		3,012	2,958
Clergy Expenses		2,385	2,165
Service costs		599	563
Secretarial		6,625	8,908
Office Expenses		1,685	2,546
Wedding and funeral costs		155	275
Refreshment costs		186	1,935
Mission		30	667
Music		707	1,384
Depreciation		9,015	9,007
Miscellaneous costs		557	1,685
TOTAL EXPENSES		118,231	138,763
Transfer from Toddlers Fund	1a)	744	0
MOVEMENT IN FUND VALUE		-23,664	-16,574

Parochial Church Council of St Saviour, Bath
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ending 31 December 2020

<u>FUND DETAILS (continued)</u>	Note	2020 £	2019 £
9b) COMMUNITY HUB FUND			
Planned Giving		13,853	19,447
Fundraising		0	245
Bank Interest		10	77
Donations		290	50
LPWS VAT reclaim		0	0
Income tax reclaimed		2,964	3,495
TOTAL INCOME		17,117	23,314
Equipment		0	0
Building Costs		0	0
Loan Interest		240	586
TOTAL EXPENSES		240	586
MOVEMENT IN FUND VALUE		16,877	22,728
9c) TODDLERS FUND			
Event Contributions		268	1,019
Interest		4	5
TOTAL INCOME		272	1,024
Running Costs		353	736
Outward Giving		0	60
TOTAL EXPENSES		353	796
Transfer to General Fund	1a)	744	0
MOVEMENT IN FUND VALUE		-825	228
9d) BELL FUND			
Wedding fees		0	20
Donations received		25	59
Interest		24	33
TOTAL INCOME		49	112
Maintenance/Tower costs		0	0
ACR Subscription/Ringing World		20	20
TOTAL EXPENSES		20	20
MOVEMENT IN FUND VALUE		29	92
9e) ALTAR FRONTAL FUND			
Donations		0	0
Interest		3	5
TOTAL INCOME		3	5
Project Costs		0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES		0	0
MOVEMENT IN FUND VALUE		3	5

Deanery Synod Report – Belinda Thomas, Ian Sharp and Tony Parr

- Nomination and election of new Lay Dean, Pippa Page

Pippa is passionate about the churches in the Bath area working together to love the people of our city and to share His message when the opportunity arises. She is involved in leading services and preaching at All Saints, and occasionally at other churches. She is also a member of the Music Worship Team. During the week she works as an Occupational Therapist in the field of Dementia Research, aiming to find ways to improve treatment and support for those with dementia and their families. Pippa is married to Robert and they have two grown up daughters. Pippa was elected with the full support of Synod.

- New Area Dean: Revd Stephen Girling

Stephen joined the Abbey's clergy team in April 2015 and has a particular responsibility for the outreach of the Abbey to visitors and in serving the city. After five years as a defence scientist, Stephen was ordained as a priest in the Church of England in 1991 and has served in suburban and rural parishes, his last post being Vicar of Crofton Parish in Fareham, Portsmouth. He is married to Diane and they have four children.

- Commissioning prayers for Stephen Girling and Pippa Page.
- Thanks to Jeremy Key-Pugh, outgoing Lay Dean and Mathew Frankum, outgoing Area Dean. Gifts and cards have been sent to both on behalf of Synod.
- Archdeacon Adrian Youings gave a [summary of the Deployment Report](#) and the budgetary challenges facing the Church in the Diocese of Bath and Wells.
- Area Dean Revd Stephen Girling spoke about the way ahead
‘Shaping a culture of Prayerfulness, Hospitality and Innovation’

Prayerfulness - submitting to God's working among us as a church and in the city and villages.

Hospitality - looking for Christ in the other, being vulnerable to the other so they see Christ in us. Especially the other who is very different from us.

Innovation - taking risks, learning from failure, building on what is fruitful because that's where God is working.

Stephen shared that his tenure will be less about planning and strategy for working together and with other churches and more about shaping the culture of church according to the above priorities.

With regard to the **Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group (DMPG)** Stephen shared his vision for 'watchmen and women' from 5 sectors of the Deanery - Central, NW, NE, SW, SE, to watch for God's working within and without the church in that sector and to feed into the DMPG to give a sense of the big picture and help with planning as and when needs and

opportunities are foreseen or arise. Nominations will be sought for election of one lay and one ordained member of each sector at the first Synod of 2021.

- **Sharing in mission with the wider church (stories from our eucumenical partners)**

Pippa Page our Lay Dean interviewed 3 guests:

Pastor Kenny Nelson, Bath Elim Church

Paul Wakely, Father's House Bath

Jonathan Horsfall, Life Church Bath

- What's going on, what do you perceive
- What do you think God wants to do in Bath, in the way of mission?

The overriding theme of all their responses was for the church in Bath to have unity. God wants to unite us as one in strategy and in mission for reaching the lost and encouraging one another, moving us forward to the glory of God.

- **Update from Bath College Chaplain, supporting faith and pastoral care**

Nigel Rawlinson (Assistant Area Dean) interviewed Eden Hunter, Chaplain at Bath College. We were encouraged by his stories about planting seeds among the students and working with the student pastoral team.

Here is a link to an [interview](#) with Eden from Bath College website.

- **Elections to Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group (DMPG)**

Objective of this group is for 'watchmen and women' from 5 sectors of the Deanery - Central, NW, NE, SW, SE, to watch for God's working within and without the church in that sector and to feed into the DMPG to give a sense of the big picture and help with planning as and when needs and opportunities are foreseen or arise.

Members elected:

Michael Farrier (Emmanuel)

Kara Maylor (Bathford)

Richard White (St Michaels, Twerton)

Mela Gillard (St Barts)

Dilwen Miller (Bathwick)

Brenda Wall (Christchurch)

Post Meeting Note, Other DMPG members

Ex-officio:

Nigel Rawlinson - Assistant Area Dean

Mike Taylor - Rural Ministry Advisor

Sally Buddle - Deanery Evangelism Enabler
Tim Buckley - Assistant Area Dean
Stephen Girling - Area Dean
Pippa Page - Lay Dean

Co-opted:

Rachel Leigh-Wood, Secretary

- **A letter has been sent to all the Treasurers about Bath Deanery annual subscriptions and support for Bath College Chaplaincy**

Incumbents were asked to make sure the letter was responded to.

- **Date of Summer meeting - TBA**